

# Teaching Methods Used in Most Public Schools Draw Sharp Criticism



**A COMFORTABLE DOG** - There nothing like comfort when watching the World Series or a Kennedy-Nixon debate on television. Here "Bonnie," a toy poodle, relaxes on a chaise longue (just her size) and dressed in mink-trimmed velvet lounging pajamas. This is one of many items of clothing featured for the "well dressed" dog at the Canary Cottage, a Chicago, Ill., pet shop. A mink coat customed to fit a toy poodle costs about \$98. (UPI Telephoto)

## Adoption of New Phonic Reading System Sought

By LOUIS CASSELS  
Washington - (UPI) - The methods by which reading and writing is taught in most U. S. public schools were criticized sharply today by speakers at the annual meeting of the Council for Basic Education.

The council is a national organization which seeks to strengthen the teaching of basic subjects in public schools.

Charles C. Walcutt, professor of English at Queens college, New York, and Glenn McCracken, reading specialist of the New Castle, Pa., public schools, appealed for adoption of an entirely new phonic reading program in schools.

"The major problem in elementary education today," Walcutt said, "is the failure of the orthodox methods of reading instruction, the whole-word or 'look-say' method."

Word Guessing  
McCracken said that teachers who assure concerned parents that "we do teach phonics" often are referring to an incidental treatment of phonics "along with a lot of word-guessing."

John H. Treanor, principal of Francis Parkman school at Jamaica Plain, Mass., said that after visiting schools in 47 states he had come to the conclusion that "Johnny can't write either."

He said most of the superintendents of the schools he visited admitted that written composition is the weakest subject in elementary schools.

Treanor blamed the situation in part on ill-prepared teachers who "do not recognize the problems of composition, never having studied it themselves."

In some big school systems, he said, the fault lies with curriculum directors who force upon the schools "a melange of progressivism, life adjustment and social promotion" and insist that English composition can be taught as a sort of sideline to social studies.

Hits Driving Courses  
Edward A. Tenney of Indiana State Teachers college said driver training courses in public schools have been "a boon to business and a disaster to education."

"Driver education promotes the sale of insurance and the sale of all those things which the auto industry produces," but there is no evidence that it has reduced the accident rate among young people and there is "ample" evidence that it has helped to stimulate a car-consciousness among students which seriously distracts from their studies, he said.

## The Family Council

Editor's Note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, three editors and a women's editor. Each article is a summary of an actual case history. The Council reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

Mrs. L. R. - Betty needs a psychiatrist to bring a psychiatrist to the house, but I'm afraid she'll suspect who he is right away and will run away.

Betty R. - I am not crazy and I don't need a psychiatrist. I certainly will run away if my mother brings around any strangers.

I know why I did the things. It was spite. I am very unhappy in school because I am behind my age group. The reason is that one teacher had it in for me when I was a kid and kept me back. After that everyone thought I was dumb. Later a teacher told me that I have a good IQ and should never have been left back.

If my mother doesn't stop pestering me about the psychiatrist I'm going to leave home anyway. I'm very unhappy here.

The Council: It is most unfortunate that Mrs. L. R. has used the psychiatrist as a threat, almost as a kind of punishment to Betty for her misdeeds.

The girl is frightened, definitely needs help and her mother's deep concern is quite understandable. But nobody can be taken to a psychiatrist against his will and a psychiatrist, in most cases, will not visit a home to see a patient who doesn't wish to be seen. It may be helpful for Mrs. L. R. to go to a psychiatrist herself and talk over the problem to get some insight into ways and means of handling her daughter until Betty wants to see the doctor of her own free will.

Betty should understand that a psychiatrist's business is by no means confined to "crazy" people. In fact, patients ill enough to be in hospitals represent only a small fraction of the average doctor's practice. Their patients are individuals like herself - unhappy, confused, doing things they don't really want to do.

She should also understand that a psychiatrist is not a person who imposes judgments or punishments, any more than a medical doctor imposes judgments or penalties on a person who comes to him with a physical ailment. His sole interest is in ridding the person of whatever "bug" is plaguing him.

Although Betty believes she understands her own motives, she should try to recognize that this is not necessarily the case. Even if it were, it wouldn't help her to cure herself.

For example, a person who catches pneumonia might say, "I got my feet wet and was chilled in a rainstorm." That doesn't make him well. Besides, his theory about the cause of the ailment is only a partial explanation, an explanation of why he may have been susceptible to the disease on that day. Many other people got their feet wet and were chilled by the same rainstorm, yet they did not get pneumonia.

Why? This is a fascinating question when it is applied to the human mind and behavior. Betty can learn all about that if she is willing to let the doctor try to help her. She is now young enough to benefit greatly.

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ALGERIAN ENDS TRIP  
Cairo - (UPI) - Algerian Moslem rebel leader Ferhat Abbas returned Tuesday night from a two-week visit to Peking and Moscow. Abbas attended the Chinese Communist regime's 11th anniversary celebrations and conferred with high Communist leaders in both capitals.

## Growing Interest of Market In Real Estate Stocks Shown

By HENRY J. BECHTOLD  
UPI Financial Editor

New York - (UPI) - The listing on the American Stock Exchange Monday of the common stock of Realty Equities Corp., further underscores the growing interest of Wall Street and the public for investment in real estate companies.



Real estate securities have only become fashionable favorites of investors in recent years. In the past 18 months alone scores of companies involved in some aspect of real estate have "gone public."

The public offering in April of Realty Equities stock, however, was the first for a real estate firm which made its reputation and money by buying and developing for quick resale a variety of properties. Today the firm is involved in every type of real estate activity.

Behind this trend toward investment in real estate stock is the realization by the public that property and land investments are excellent hedges against inflation, according to Morris Karp, 31 year old president of Realty Equities.

Karp explained that traditionally, real estate values increase at a greater rate than the dollar purchasing power during inflationary spirals. He noted, for example, that real property has been steady rate of 4 per cent annually, or twice the rate of inflation in the purchasing power of the dollar.

Another positive factor, he stated, has been the continued expansion of the American economy and standard of living, highlighted by the construction boom of the 1950s which caused burgeoning land values throughout the country.

The fantastic developments in such areas as Florida, Arizona, and Long Island forced investors as well as professional investment houses to take note of the profits being made by farsighted developers.

These investors, Karp said, were attracted especially by the growth potential in land and home developments, shopping centers, office buildings and apartment buildings.

He pointed out that syndicators, who were instrumental in further educating broad segments of the public to the intricacies and the profits inherent in real estate investments, took careful note of this post-war interest in real estate.

This has resulted in the successful exchanges of syndicate interests for common stock recently by Kratter Corp., Futterman Corp. and Tenney Corp. These companies are outgrowths of numerous syndications formed by the men for which the companies were named.

Another major syndicator, Louis Glickman, also is expected soon to consolidate his interests by exchanging them for common stock in a newly formed real estate corporation.

The real estate boom has been quite marked in land development. Among the companies which have offered stock to the public are General Development Corp. (American Exchange), All State Properties (American), and Arvida Corp., Major Realty Corp., Horizons Land Corp., Garden Land Co., Ltd., and Lefcourt Realty (all over-the-counter).

In construction and investment there are such well known companies as Webb & Knapp (American), Fishman Realty and Construction (N.Y. Stock Exchange), and Uris Brothers and Levitt Corp. (both over-the-counter), all of whose stock and/or debentures are available to the public.

Land Dealings  
These last four firms basically acquire land, build on it and then manage the property for profit. Often they will sell the property and lease it back at an annual rental so that they may again utilize their capital to take on another project.

Kratter, Futterman, Glickman and Tenney, among others, are solely interested in properties for investment and yield. They purchase buildings or properties, develop and manage them for income and profit. They do not often engage in construction.

Despite the transition of the major syndicators to the formation of public companies, Karp noted that syndication still is a fast expanding field of real estate investment.

Annual Investment  
It is estimated that \$3 billion is invested annually by the public in syndicate interests. A real estate syndicate is a group of investors who pool their money to purchase an income producing property. Each investor becomes a limited partner in the syndicate in proportion to his investment.

Karp pointed out that Realty Equities Corp. is a combination of all the above operations and activities. It buys real estate for resale and/or investment, constructs, and often syndicates major properties.

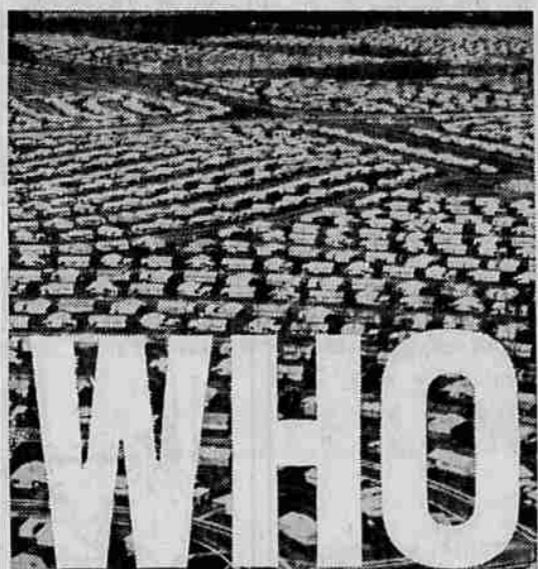
Washington - (UPI) - The 1957-59 business recession may have caused the decline in the explosive U.S. birth rate, according to the Population Reference Board, Inc.

The bureau, in an analysis published in its periodical "Population Bulletin," said many Americans may have been concerned about the duration and seriousness of the business recession of 1957-59 in planning their families.

It said the birth rate during the great depression of the 1930s was well below the present rate, and "every minor economic recession since 1946 has been followed by a slight, temporary decline in the birth rate."

Below Previous Year  
The Bureau said the birth rate fell slightly for 11 consecutive months - September 1959 to July 1960 - below the corresponding period of the previous year. It said the birth rate averaged 22.6 per thousand persons during the first six months of 1960, a decline from the corresponding averages of 23.6 in 1959, 23.7 in 1958, and 24.2 in 1957.

Conceptions in the recession months between May and November of 1959 would have occurred in births between January and July of 1960 - included in the period in which the rate declined.



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